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Summary of Text as Parrino and Garmone Question Detective Schottke

Interrogation of Sam
in Hospital Described



READS STATEMENT. Detective Robert F. Schottke of the Cleveland police read to jurors yesterday a nine-page statement made by Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard on July 10.

Following is a general summary of events in the afternoon session of the trial of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard yesterday.

Detective Robert F. Schottke of the Cleveland Police Department was being questioned by Assistant County Prosecutor Thomas J. Parrino.

Q—You have related part of the second conversation you had with Dr. Sam on July 4. Is there any part you have not told me?

A—Yes.

Q—Relate that, please.

A—We told Dr. Sheppard we couldn't find the T-shirt and asked him where it was. He said he didn't know. We asked him if he had any chipped teeth. He said yes. We said some tooth chips were found and asked him if they were his. He said no.

Q—Did the defendant say he took his wife's pulse?

A—He said he took it at the neck.

Q—Did he say when?

A—The first time he talked to me he said it was after regaining consciousness on the beach. The second time he told me he took it when he first came to in the bedroom. That was when I had asked him about the blood on his wrist watch, and he said it might have been when he took her pulse.

Q—When was that first conversation?

A—About 11 a. m.

Q—Is there any part of that you have not related?

A—Yes.

Interview With Sam Interrupted by Steve

Q—Relate that, please.

A—We asked him whether he kept the doors locked. He said no. We asked did he keep much money in the house. He said no,



DETECTIVE ROBERT E. SCHOTTKE ON WITNESS STAND

only \$60 or \$70. We asked about narcotics in the house. He said no, maybe a few samples in the desk.

Q—During the interview, was anyone else there?

A—Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard came in. We introduced ourselves and said we'd like to question Dr. Sam alone.

Q—Was that the only time he came in?

A—No. He came in three or four times. The last time we asked him if he would please stay out.

Q—Where did you go after the second conversation, the one that started about 3 p. m.?

A—I searched the grounds, the

garage, the basement.

Q—About July 5. Did you see Dr. Sam that day?

A—Yes, around 1:30 p. m. at Bay View Hospital, in his room.

Q—Did you have any conversation?

A—Yes. We asked Sam for a description of his assailant. Dr. Steve came in and said that due to the accusations made they had hired counsel and had been told or advised not to answer questions.

Q—Was there further questioning?

A—No.



DETECTIVE SCHOTTKE IS INTERROGATED BY ASSISTANT COUNTY PROSECUTOR THOMAS J. PARRINO

Q—Did you leave then?

A—Yes. Just before we left there were two visitors (Defense Attorney) William J. Corrigan and (Defense Attorney) Peter-silge.

Q—Did they say anything?

A—Corrigan said Sam was in no condition to be questioned and he advised Sam not to talk.

Q—Did you see the defendant on July 6? July 7?

Relates Dr. Steve's Advice to Brother

A—No.

Q—July 8?

A—Yes. He was in his hospital room with Dr. Steve, Dr. (Samuel R.) Gerber, several detectives and others.

Q—What was the conversation?

A—Dr. Gerber told Sam he wanted to question him. Dr. Steve said to Sam: "You're over 21, this is your problem, something you're going to have to answer for yourself * * * but I do not think Schottke and (Patrick A.) Gareau are the type of people to question you."

Q—Did you see these people after that?

A—Yes, out in the corridor.

Q—Did you question Sam Sheppard? Did Gareau?

A—No.

Q—Did any member of the Cleveland Police Department?

A—No.

Q—When did you next see the defendant?

A—On July 10, in the office of Deputy Sheriff Carl A. Rossbach.

Q—Did the defendant give a

statement in writing at that time?

A—Yes.

Detective Schottke read the nine-page statement.

Defense Attorney Fred W. Garmone began cross-examination after the statement was read and a brief recess was held.

Garmone Probes

Quizzing of Sam

Q—While this statement is fresh in the minds of the jurors, tell us what time the examination took place.

A—It began at 11:40 a. m.

Q—What time did you see the defendant that day?

A—About 9 a. m., in Rossbach's office.

Q—He was subjected to an examination for two and a half hours.

A—No, not all of that time.

Q—How long?

A—About two hours.

Q—Who asked the questions?

A—We all asked some.

Q—You all took a shot at him?

An objection was sustained and Garmone rephrased the question to "You all took a crack at him?" After a second objection he inquired: "You all participated?"

A—Yes.

Q—What time were you told to go to 28924 West Lake Road on the morning of July 4?"

A—About 8:15 a. m.

A—Dr. Gerber. He was just coming out, about 9 a. m.

Q—Then what did you do?

A—The three of us went in the living room for two or three minutes and then went to the room where Marilyn Sheppard was.

Describes Examination

of Murder Bedroom

Q—How long did you remain there?

A—We stayed about 20 minutes, while I made my examination about the windows, the position of curtains and the blood on the doors.

Q—When was it you got down on your knees?

A—In that time. I borrowed a flashlight and got down on my knees and looked under the beds from all sides.

It was established that Shottke, though he ordered no one to take pictures, did ask whether they had been taken and was answered affirmatively.

Q—You didn't order those papers taken down to ballistics for fingerprinting?

A—I had no authority to do so.

Q—Answer the question.

A—No, I didn't.

Q—When you went in the den, what did you do?

A—I made an observation of the drawers from that desk, two on the floor, several pulled out, the contents somewhat disturbed. I saw a lady's gold wrist watch and near the den a medical bag.

Q—You didn't take the medical bag down to ballistics?

A—No.

Q—The coat found on the couch. What was done with it?

A—It was left there. To the best of my knowledge, it was still there on July 8.

Fails to Recall If Coat Was Treated

Q—Do you know whether that coat was treated with any substance to preserve foreign materials or fingerprints?

A—No, I don't know.

Q—On the 4th, you were on the premises for an hour and 45 minutes, and you were in the bedroom only once?

A—No. More than that.

Q—Parrino asked about Marilyn Sheppard's clothes. You described the position of the pajamas. Do you remember that?

A—Yes.

Q—Which leg was it that was bare?

A—The left.

Q—When did you take the top sheet down to make the observation possible?

A—I didn't. Dr. Gerber did.

Q—When?

A—As the body was about to be removed.

Q—When the body was removed, the clothing was bundled up, wasn't it?

A—No. It was folded and taken to the morgue station wagon.

Q—Are you sure of that?

A—Yes.

Q—If Patrolman (Fred F.) Drenkhan said the clothes were bundled up and taken to the funeral home, was he wrong?

An objection was sustained.

Quizzes Detective on Interruptions

Q—When you went to the hos-



DR. SAMUEL H. SHEPPARD SITS WITH EYES CLOSED AND HANDS CLASPED AS DETECTIVE SCHOTTKE READS HIS JULY 10 STATEMENT

pital for that first conversation with Dr. Sam, you weren't interrupted, were you?

A—Yes, by Dr. Steve.

Q—You didn't say this morning that Dr. Steve had come in.

Assistant County Prosecutor Saul S. Danaceau objected, saying: "He certainly did specifically mention those interruptions."

GARMONE—You show me the record where he said that.

DANACEAU—Look at it for yourself.

GARMONE—Detective Schottke, what did you say to Sam when you went in his room?

A—I said: "Doctor, will you tell us everything you know in regard to this homicide?"

Q—Where did you go after you left the hospital?

A—To the Bay Village police station.

Q—And there, did you say to Chief (John P.) Eaton: "You don't have to look any further, you can stop with Sam Sheppard?"

A—I absolutely did not.

Garmone asked Schottke about reports that may have been made on the two July 4 conversations with the defendant.

A—Three days later I wrote down what happened.

Q—Did you take a copy of the report over to Sam for his approval?

A—No.

Q—Did you say to him, "You might as well confess—we found your tooth chips under your wife's body?"

A—No

Admits Saying Evidence Pointed to Dr. Sam

There was some misunderstanding over just when it was established the chips did not come from Dr. Sheppard's teeth. That was cleared up.

Q—Did you tell Chief Eaton, "I don't know about you but I'm satisfied that Sam's the man?"

A—Those weren't the words.

Q—What did you say?

A—I said, "The evidence points strongly to Sam Sheppard as the man who killed Marilyn."

Q—You had spent how many hours on the investigation by then?

A—Six.

Q—And you concluded Sam was guilty.

A—That was my opinion.

Garmone asked several more questions about the written report Schottke had made on the two murder-day conversations with Dr. Sam, then asked: "Will you bring the report here Monday?"

A—If I am ordered to by the judge.

Q—You mean, if the judge doesn't order you to bring it over, we won't have access to it?

A—It is an official police report.

JUDGE BLYTHIN—He probably means, this is a report made to his superior officers.

GARMONE—When this trial started, there was a lot of talk about "Let the chips fall where they may!"

PARRINO—It's not time for final arguments yet, Mr. Garmone.

GARMONE—Will you bring those reports and the photographs that go with them down here Monday?

SCHOTTKE—They are part of the official police report.

GARMONE—That means we can't have them?

JUDGE BLYTHIN—Let's find out first who's in charge of them. Perhaps he couldn't produce them even if he wanted to.

They touched briefly on the time shown by Sam Sheppard's watch when Schottke first saw it, then returned to the argument about police reports, but adjourned before a conclusion was reached.

Morning Session

Before Schottke took the stand Coroner Gerber completed his testimony. Attorneys for both sides cleared up points made by Dr. Gerber earlier.

Danaceau had the witness read more of the defendant's inquest testimony and brought out that the coroner decided to call the inquest before a newspaper editorial demanded it.

Corrigan again inspected the exhibits brought in by Dr. Ger-

ber and asked additional questions pertaining to them. The coroner was excused with orders to bring in additional public records of his office.

Schottke then took the stand and was examined by Parrino. On July 4, the detective said, he received an assignment to "assist the Bay Village Police Department in a homicide." With him went his partner, Detective Gareau.

In his examination of the murder scene, which he related in detail, no evidence of forcible entry into the home or of a struggle in the bedroom was found, according to the witness.

Detective Recalls Interrogation of Sam

At 11 a. m., the testimony continued, Schottke and Gareau began a 20-minute interrogation of the defendant in his room at Bay View Hospital:

SCHOTTKE—We introduced ourselves and told him we had been requested to assist the Bay Village police. We asked him to tell us everything he knew in regard to this matter.

He told us about his falling asleep on the couch while there was company in the house. While sleeping he heard his wife scream.

He ran upstairs. When he was in the room he thought he saw a form. He thought he



DETECTIVE ROBERT E. SCHOTTKE IN WITNESS CHAIR heard someone working over his wife. He was hit on the side of the head and was knocked unconscious.

Then he heard a noise downstairs. When he got there he thought he saw a form going out the door. He pursued it to the boathouse landing.

He doesn't know whether he jumped over the railing of the beach stairs or ran down them. He tackled the form and was knocked unconscious again. When he woke up he was on his stomach being wallowed back and forth on the waves.

He was dazed, and he wandered back to the house. He looked at his wife, and felt that she was gone. He tried to think of a phone number. Then he called the mayor.

Screams Described by Sam as Loud

We asked him how the screams sounded. He said they were loud. We asked him how long they lasted. He said all the while he was running upstairs.

We asked him if he was assaulted by the same man who was working over his wife. He said no; he had the impression it was by someone else. We asked him how many times he was assaulted. He said two or three times at the most.

We asked him what he was hit with. He said with fists in both assaults. We asked him for a description of the man he saw running out of the house. He said it was a big man.

We asked him if the man was white or colored. He said he must have been white because the dog always barks at colored people. He said he was about six feet three inches tall and had on dark clothing. He was a dark complected white man.

We asked him if he had turned on any lights in the home. He said no. We asked him if there were any lights on the home. He couldn't recall.

We told him we had heard rumors that Dr. Lester T. Ho-

versten (Dr. Sam's house guest) was infatuated with Mrs. Sheppard. He said he had heard them, but he didn't pay any attention to them because he knew his wife was faithful.

Sam Questioned on Wife's Callers

We asked him if his wife had callers while he was out. He said several, but he didn't think anything of it. He couldn't recall the names of any of them.

We asked him if his wife was having any affairs, and he said no. We asked him if he was having any affairs. He said no.

Q—Describe his appearance.

A—He answered all our questions in normal tones. He spoke in a loud enough voice so we could hear and understand.

He had a swelling under his right eye and a gauze bandage on his neck. There were no bruises on his arms or legs.

Schottke then told of returning to the murder home. He, Gareau and Dr. Gerber inspected three pieces of jewelry belonging to the defendant that were found in a green bag on the premises. They were his watch, ring and key chain.

According to Schottke the watch, when first viewed, was stopped at 4:15 a.m. Later, he noticed that it had begun to run again. There were blood and moisture on it. At 3 p.m. the two detectives, with Bay Village Police Chief John P. Eaton, made a second trip to the hospital. They found Dr. Sam in another room.

Clothing Worn by Sam Listed

SCHOTTKE — We said we'd like to ask him a few more questions, and he said all right.

We asked him what clothing he had on when he went to sleep on the couch. He said a corduroy jacket, a white T-shirt, trousers and loafers. He said he had had on his watch, ring and key chain.

He didn't know where the jewelry was now. When we showed him the green bag he said it looked like the one he kept his motor boat tools in and that he kept the bag in his desk in the study.

(Dr. Sam then identified the three pieces of jewelry as his).

We asked him how water got into the wrist watch. He said he had been playing golf with Otto Graham (Cleveland Browns football player) a few days before and there had been a heavy downpour. He said his wife was going to take it to have it fixed.

We asked him how the blood got on the band. He said when he regained consciousness he felt his wife's pulse at the neck.

We asked him how he could account for his jewelry being in the bag. He said someone must have taken it from him.

Asked Why Billfold Was Not Taken

We asked him why a burglar who took his jewelry wouldn't take his billfold. He said when he regained consciousness in the bedroom he saw the billfold on the floor and put it back in his pocket.

About his being on his stomach, face down, in the water, wallowing in the waves, we asked him why he didn't drown. We asked him if he didn't know that an unconscious person could drown in two inches of water.

He said an unconscious person could sometimes help himself. About his wandering in a dazed condition, he said it was like an injured football player who could play half a game without knowing what was going on.

We asked him when he removed his jacket. He said he faintly remembered waking up during the night, taking it off and putting it on the floor.

We told him it was found neatly folded on the couch, and if he were sleeping on it, it would be wrinkled.

Relates Telling Sam of Opinion of Guilt

We then told him we had heard he had been keeping company with a former nurse at the hospital and that he bought her a watch in California. He said that wasn't true.

I said the evidence points very strongly to you and, in my opinion, you are the one who killed your wife. He said: "Don't be ridiculous. I've devoted my life to saving lives. I loved my wife."

I asked him if he would take a lie detector test. He said yes. Then he asked how it worked, and we explained it. He said in his present condition it wouldn't be a fair test and he wouldn't take it at this particular time. We said any time.

Q—When he said, "Don't be ridiculous," what was the tone of his voice?

A—The same tone as in answer to all of our questions. It wasn't angry, and was rather unemotional.

At this point the noon recess was called.